

DRAFT

October 31, 2005

Key Elements of the Long Creek/Jackson Brook Restoration Effort

- **Establish a Steering Committee:** A Committee that includes representatives from each municipality, from the DEP, from the watershed's landowners and business community and from the general public should be established to guide the restoration effort and the development and adoption of a watershed restoration management plan. The committee should include members with technical expertise as well as members that can represent the interests of state and local governments, the business community, local interest groups and the general public.
- **Develop/present the technical basis for decision making:** Information on the following items should be assembled, or obtained if not already available, in order to inform the process of developing a comprehensive watershed restoration management plan.
 - Stream condition and the reason(s) for impairment in each reach/segment of Long Creek/Jackson Brook and its tributaries
 - An evaluation of the available hydrological and geomorphological information to assess the nature and magnitude of stormwater quantity management needed for each reach/segment of Long Creek/Jackson Brook and its tributaries
 - Prioritized list of specific stormwater retrofit, riparian recovery and in stream restoration projects that will result sufficient water quality and quantity as well as habitat improvements to allow the stream to meet appropriate water quality and aquatic life standards. The list should include evaluation of the technical feasibility and, to the greatest extent possible, economic feasibility of each project.
- **Education:** Information accumulated above must be presented in an effective and appropriate manner to the all of the entities that will eventually be involved in the restoration effort including:
 - Municipal officials
 - Landowners and businesses in the watershed
 - Voters within the three municipalities
- **Draft a Watershed Restoration Management Plan:** The steering committee will draft and garner support for a comprehensive watershed restoration management plan that includes the following elements:
 - The agreed upon goals of the restoration effort.
 - Objectives to meet the goals.
 - A detailed, prioritized list of the stormwater management retrofits and other management practices, riparian recovery projects and in stream restoration

projects that are deemed necessary to meet the objectives of the plan. The list should include rough cost estimates and identification of the party(ies) responsible for implementation of each item.

- Identification and evaluation of all the options available to facilitate implementation of the projects listed above and selection of the option(s) that will be used. Evaluated options may include:
 - Establishment of a stormwater utility or other fee based means of distributing the cost of implementation across the owners of existing developed lands in the watershed and providing coordinated management of stormwater facilities
 - Carrot and stick approaches such as offering matching grants, as funds are available, to landowners with potential regulatory options (i.e. stormwater management law, Clean Water Act) held as an added incentive.
 - Adoption of local ordinances requiring retrofits
- Evaluation of the options available to insure long term maintenance of stormwater management practices and other restoration efforts and selection of the option(s) that will be used.
- Evaluation of the options available for addressing new development proposals and insuring that they will not contribute to the impairment of Long Creek/Jackson Brook and selection of the option(s) that will be used. These options may include:
 - Leaving regulation of projects that meet the threshold of the stormwater and site location laws to the DEP.
 - Adopting local ordinances at least as restrictive as state law and implementing locally.
 - Development of community stormwater management facilities and activities that will collectively address, up front, the stormwater impacts in certain subwatersheds, thus freeing future development in those subwatersheds from regulatory burdens.
 - Combinations of the above options and others that may identified.
- An education plan to inform landowners and the public about the management plan and to engender and insure support for its implementation.

- **Adoption of the Watershed Restoration Management Plan by local governments**
- **Implementation of the Plan**